

**WHEREAS**, Florida's greatest asset is its people and our diverse cultures have enriched the State since early times and the Florida Jewish Community just as Blacks, Women and Hispanics have actively participated in shaping the State's destiny; and

**WHEREAS**, Jewish people have been a significant part of the development of our State since 1763, which is the first year that Jews were *allowed* to live (as Jews) in Florida as Florida was owned by Spain from 1513, it was for "Catholics only"; and

**WHEREAS**, our State hosts the nation's third largest Jewish community (after New York and California) at 850,000; and

**WHEREAS**, a Jewish territorial delegate, David Levy Yulee is known as the "architect" of Florida Statehood, was also Florida's first Senator to serve in Washington and the first Jewish person to serve in the U.S. Congress; and

**WHEREAS**, for nearly 250 years Jewish people have lived in Florida maintaining traditions of their heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, The Jewish Museum of Florida opened in 1995 in a restored historic Art Deco Synagogue on South Beach and collects, preserves and interprets the Jewish experience in Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, Jewish people have contributed and been involved in enriching the lives and dreams of all Floridians, we wish to celebrate the strength and richness that our multicultural population brings to our State.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Davie hereby proclaim the month of January, 2003 in the Town of Davie as;

## **FLORIDA JEWISH HISTORY MONTH**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of December, 2003.

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**Tom Truex, Mayor**

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